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Title: Need to provide marketing facility to Telangana fishermen.

SHRI P. SRINIVASA REDDY (KHAMMAM): The Telangana Government has launched the ambitious 'Mission Kakatiya' to restore 46,531 tanks across the state to create a storage capacity of 255 TMC of water in a bid to enhance the development of agriculture based income for small and marginal farmers by restoring of tanks under Mission Kakatiya.

Under this programme, about 46,531 number of Minor Irrigation, Small tanks, Percolation tanks, Private Kuntas and Small tanks were identified for restoration which in turn has huge potential in generation of rural employment, poverty reduction and agricultural growth. Almost 50% of the identified tanks have been completed.

In order to exploit all the possible resources under capture and culture fishery base for increasing fish production and productivity through sustainable development, the State Government alone has spent Rs. 57 crores for fish production in all the tanks during the current year. It has supplied fish larvae to fishermen free of cost to put them into the tanks. As a result of monsoon fag end heavy rains in Telangna, a wonderful harvest of lakhs of tonnes of fresh water fish is expected.

Since fish is perishable item, the Government of India should also take the responsibility to provide marketing facility for the huge catch, which gives benefit to the poor fishermen.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to extend all necessary help for providing national and international marketing facility to Telangana fishermen.